

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of reproducing an audio signal, comprising:

supplying an audio signal to a plurality of digital filters and producing a respective plurality of filtered signals;

generating a sound field inside closed space by supplying the plurality of filtered signals from the plurality of digital filters to a respective plurality of speakers constituting a speaker array; and

focusing reflective sounds outputted from one or more of the speakers of the speaker array to a plurality of locations each corresponding to ~~location of a~~ respective listener inside a sound field after being reflected by a wall surface of the closed space with a sound pressure greater than a sound pressure at a peripheral location in the closed space,

said plurality of digital filters being defined such that the reflective sounds are focused at the location of the listener and such that a sound pressure reduced point of direct sounds outputted from one or more of the speakers of the speaker array is at the location of the listener.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) An apparatus for reproducing an audio signal, comprising:

a plurality of speakers constituting a speaker array; and

a plurality of digital filters to which an audio signal is supplied for producing a plurality of filtered signals,

wherein a sound field is generated inside a closed space by supplying the plurality of filtered signals from said plurality of digital filters to said plurality of speakers, respectively;

wherein reflective sounds outputted from one or more of the speakers of the speaker array are focused at a plurality of locations each corresponding to ~~location of~~ a respective listener inside the sound field after being reflected by a wall surface of the closed space with a sound pressure greater than a sound pressure at a peripheral location, and

said plurality of digital filters being defined such that the reflective sounds are focused at the location of the listener and such that a sound pressure reduced point of direct sounds outputted from one or more of the speakers of the speaker array is at the location of the listener.

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) An apparatus for reproducing an audio signal in a desired space, said apparatus comprising:

a plurality of speakers constituting a speaker array; and

a plurality of digital filters coupled directly or indirectly to a source and respectively to said plurality of speakers, said plurality of digital filters having filter coefficients associated therewith,

said plurality of digital filters being operable to receive an audio signal from said source and to produce therefrom a plurality of filtered signals and to supply said plurality of filtered signals or signals corresponding thereto to said plurality of speakers so as to cause a sound field to be generated therefrom in the desired space, and

said filter coefficients having values such that reflective sounds outputted from one or more of the speakers of the speaker array are focused at a plurality of locations each corresponding to ~~location of~~ a respective listener inside the desired space after being reflected by a wall surface of the desired space with a sound pressure greater than a sound

pressure at a peripheral location, and such that a sound pressure reduced point of direct sounds outputted from one or more of the speakers of the speaker array is at the location of the listener.

6. (new) The method according to claim 1, further comprising determining a number of focal points corresponding to the plurality of locations and positions thereof inside the sound field.

7. (new) The apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising a device to determine a number of focal points corresponding to the plurality of locations and positions thereof inside the sound field.

8. (new) The apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising a device to determine a number of focal points corresponding to the plurality of locations and positions thereof inside the sound field.